

Wed Sept 24

Dear Mom & Dad,

It started raining Monday afternoon and is still coming down. We're not used to this any more and it is kind of gloomy! I'm taking a Civil Service course on R + D Contracting in downtown Wash. this week. I catch the bus near the apartment and get into town very quickly as there are lanes reserved for buses. Next week I'm going to California & New Mexico and will be home on Friday. We're still planning to visit around Thanksgiving and hope nothing happens to prevent it.

After my trip I'll go down and apply for a mortgage on the condominium. We expect to move in sometime in December and are thinking about furniture and other things we will need.

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I need to find out if we can get someone to come in and vacuum, dust, & clean the bathrooms once a week. We just don't want to spend the time. At least we'll have a washer & dryer in the condominium. It's hard to get ahold of the units here and I took "vacation" last Friday afternoon to do the wash.

We've gone hiking along the old C & O canal which parallels the Potomac the last two Sundays. October will be a good month to go up in the mountains. There are two long weekends next month. During the first we plan to drive through Pa., Md., & W. Va. to see the leaves. For the second we may go to Chicago since I need to visit a contractor and we can see our friends there. Jim & Vickie